

By JOHN McELROY.

CHAPTER XXXIII

Hays's Division.

Broken Barricade

Main Body of Cavalry

U.S. Attack on Flank

55

BROCKENBROUGH'S BRIGADE

DAVIS' BRIGADE

UNION LINE

Stone Wall

Armistead Fell

Pettigrew Wounded

Trimble Wounded

Garnett Fell

Stone

Memper Wounded

Cocod

Pettigrew's Horse Killed

1400 Yards Distance to Union Line

PETTIGREW'S BRIGADE

under Marshall

ARMISTEAD'S BRIGADE

under Fry who was Wounded and Captured

SCALES BRIGADE

orders, came back with their saddles and bridles in their arms. Latrobe's horse was twice shot.

Looking confidently for advance of the line upon fire, I rode to the line of the batteries, resolved to hold it until the last gun was lost. As I rode, the shells screaming over my head and plowing the ground under my horse, and the very tropical went up that none of them might take me from scenes of such awful responsibility, but the storm to be met left no time to think of one's self. The battery officers were prepared to follow me, and I moved forward, made for leaving the first line, from old acquaintance of Sharnburg experience, Capt. Miller, was walking up and down behind his guns, smoking his pipe, directing his fire. The heads of our men as fast as they were in danger line; the other officers equally firm and ready to defend to the last. A body of skirmishers put out from the line, and they advanced some distance, but the batteries were in the fire and drove it back. Our men passed the batteries in quiet walk, and would rally, I knew, when they reached the ridge from which they started.

Gen. Wilcox soon went on, and with staff officers and others assisted in encouraging the men and getting them together."

Wilcox's Attack.

It was intended that the brigade of Brig.-Gen. Cadmus M. Wilcox, who advanced on Pickett's right, should support his attack, and when he succeeded in driving the Confederates from the ridge, an immediate rush on the disordered Union forces. Wilcox did not start as early as was expected, but when he did

our front were all silenced. Here many were shot down, being then exposed to a heavy fire of grape and musketry upon our right flank. Now all apparently had forsaken us. The two brigades (now reduced to mere squads, not numbering in all 800 guns) were the only line to be seen upon the battlefield and no support in view. The natural inquiry was, What shall we do? and none to answer. The men answered for themselves, and without orders the brigade retreated, leaving many on the field unable to get off, and some, I fear, unwilling to undertake the hazardous retreat. The brigade was then rallied on the same line where it was first formed."

Virginia and North Carolina.

North Carolina has been justly incensed at Virginia for claiming the whole credit of the gallantry and devotion of Pickett's assault. The Virginian historians and the writers generally

to describe the assailed portion of the Union line on Cemetery Ridge and to locate and identify the troops which defended the position. The Ridge extends from the Cemetery south towards Round Top, two miles away, and along its upper western slope there ran a stone fence. The course of this fence was not an unbroken straight north and south line. For several hundred yards from its southern terminus it ran due north, then turned due east (the space inclosed being called the Angle) 30 yards, and then turned again due north, for several hundred yards to the Bryan barn; that is, that part of the rock wall in front of the right of the column of attack stood forward about 30 yards, while that part of the wall in front of the left of the column of attack receded linearly, giving to the enemy's line of defense an echelon formation. The Confederate line when it reached the near proximity of that wall exactly equalled its entire length.

tion, with Webb's Brigade on the right, then Hall's, then Harrow's. Along the receding wall from the point where it turned due north was the Second Brigade of the Third Division, and then the north along the wall the Third Brigade of that division. The Second Brigade was commanded by Col. Smyth and the Third by Col. Bull. Willard having been killed the day before, and Col. Sherrill in the present action, Webb's right regiment, the 11st Pa., facing to the west (from which course came the Confederate advance), had its right resting upon the vertex of the "Angle." On the left of the 11st Pa. was the 39th Pa. The objective point in the Federal line—I, e., the point to which the center of the column of attack, the left of Pickett's and the right of Beebe's Division (the latter commanded by Pettigrew) was directed—was a cluster of chestnut oak trees that stood inside the

(Continued on page three.)

"The division captured and turned into corps headquarters 15 battle flags or banners. A number of other flags were captured, but had been surreptitiously disposed of in the subsequent excitement of battle before they could be collected.

"I transmit the report of Lieut. W. E. Potter, showing a collection by him of 1,550 stand of arms, besides an estimate of 999 left upon the ground for want of time to collect them. From my own personal examination of the field I am satisfied the number estimated is not too great. Of the prisoners which I saw in our hands, report the first cursory account, to be got but by estimate, which cannot be less than 1,500."

12th N. J., and 40th N. Y. and the 1st artillery fire. It joined with the 12th N. J. in the fire which drove the enemy from its front, and in the countercharge which followed, and came back with over 400 prisoners and several battle flags. Altogether the regiment lost out of its 400 men 58 killed, 177 wounded and 4 missing, or a total of 249.

Gen. Longstreet's Account.

In his book "From Manassas to Appomattox," Gen. Longstreet gives this account of the charge:

horseman, sat lightly in the saddle, his brown locks flowing quite over his shoulders. Pettigrey's Division spread their steps, and quickly rectified the alignment, and the grand march moved bravely on. Gen. Trimble mounted, adjusting his seat and reins as if settling out on an afternoon ride. When aligned to their places solid march was made down the slope and past our batteries of position.

Confederate batteries put their fire over the heads of the men as they

than on the evening previous. Not a man of the division that I was ordered to support could I see, but as my orders were to go to their support, on my men went down the slope until they came near the hill upon which were the enemy's batteries and intrenchments. Here they were exposed to a close and terrible fire of artillery. Two lines of the enemy's infantry were seen moving by the flank toward the rear of my left. I ordered my men to hold their ground until I could get artillery to fire

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The 14th Conn.
 Maj. Theodore G. Ellis, 11th Conn., says that his regiment opened fire at 200 yards, and this ran along the whole line. The enemy's first line was broken, and then thrown in confusion upon the second. After the fire had been maintained for some time and the enemy seemed to be yielding his regiment charged out and captured five regimental battle flags and over 400 prisoners. About 100 of the enemy came into the

study for some new thought that might assail the assaulting column. In a few minutes report came from Alexander that he would only be able to judge the effect of his fire by the return of that of the enemy, as his infantry was not exposed to view, and the smoke of the batteries would soon cover the field. He asked, if there was an alternative, that it be carefully considered before the batteries opened, as there was not enough artillery ammunition for this

right overreached my left and gave serious trouble. Brockenbrough's Brigade went down and Davis's in impetuous charge. The general order required further assistance from the Third Corps if needed, but no support appeared. Gen. Lee and the corps commander were there, but failed to order help.

"Col. Latrobe was sent to Gen. Trimble to have his men fill the line of the broken brigades, and bravely they repulsed the damers. The enemy moved

Archer's Brigade, which had been handled very roughly and its commander captured on the first day of the fight, was led into the charge by Lieut.-Col. S. G. Shepard, 7th Tenn., whose report tells of his crowning misfortune in the assault.

"Every flag in the brigade excepting one was captured at or within the works of the enemy. The 1st Tenn. had three color-bearers shot down, the last of whom was captured within the works."

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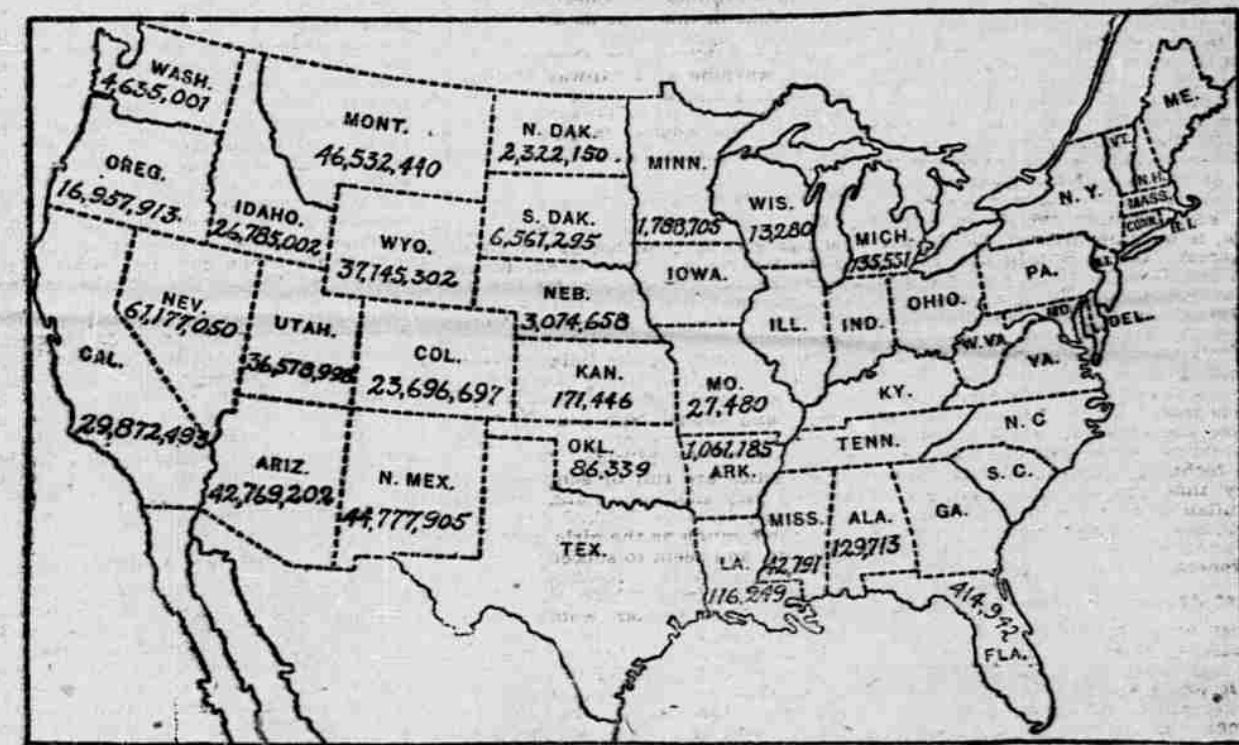
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